

REMARKS

Claims 1-37 are pending in the application. Claims 1-8 and 10-37 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Applicant reserves the right to pursue any of the amended claims in original form in a continuation application. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration in view of the amendments to the claims and the following remarks.

I. The § 102 Rejections

Claims 1-37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,003,531 to Holenstein et al. ("Holenstein").

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections.

Claim 1, as amended, recites a method of loading data into a new table copy, in which the new table copy is to be added to a database replication group including a plurality of pre-existing table copies. In particular, the method includes (concurrent to loading data from a source table copy into the new table copy) simultaneously applying changes of a user application received during the loading of the data to the plurality of pre-existing table copies in the database replication group including the source table copy. In addition, a spill storage area at the new table copy is created and the changes of the user application are stored in the storage spill area without applying the changes of the user application to the new table copy. Upon completion of the loading of the data into the new table copy, the changes of the user application stored in the spill storage area are applied to the new table copy.

Holenstein discloses techniques for synchronizing a plurality of databases in a database replication system (see Abstract). In one aspect, Holenstein discloses that a source database and a target database may both be on-line during a synchronization process (col. 9, ll. 31-33). Accordingly, application updates (e.g., transactions executed on a row of data in the source

database) that occur during synchronization are posted to the target database if the row of data (or a key range inclusive of the row of data) has been previously posted to the target database through the synchronization process (col. 10, ll. 30-43).

Holenstein, however, fails to disclose several aspects of claim 1.

First, Holenstein fails to disclose storing the changes of a user application (received during the loading of the data) in a storage spill area without applying the changes of the user application to the new table copy. Instead, as discussed above, Holenstein discloses posting transactions executed on a row of data in the source database that occur during synchronization to the target database if the row of data (or a key range inclusive of the row of data) has been previously posted to the target database through the synchronization process. Thus, Holenstein's synchronization techniques attempt to synchronize, at every point in time, the target database to the source database for those data ranges that have been loaded into the target database (see col. 2, ll. 43-45).

Second, Holenstein fails to disclose applying the changes of the user application stored in the spill storage area to the new table copy upon completion of the loading of the data into the new table copy. Instead, as discussed above, Holenstein discloses synchronization techniques that synchronizes the target database to the source database for those data ranges that have been loaded into the target database. That is, Holenstein does not wait until the completion of the loading of data into a target database prior to posting application updates to the target database.


For at least these reasons, Applicant submits that claim 1, and the claims that depend therefrom, should be allowable over Holenstein.

Claims 18 and 35 each incorporates limitations similar to those of claim 1. Claims 18 and 35, and the claims that depend therefrom, are also allowable over Holenstein for reasons corresponding to those set forth with respect to claim 1.

Applicant submits that claims 1-37 are allowable over the cited reference, and are in condition for allowance. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,
SAWYER LAW GROUP LLP

January 11, 2007


Kelvin M. Vivian
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 53,727
(650) 475-1448